

Proposed changes to the Australian Standard Classification of Cultural and Ethnic Groups (ASCCEG)

This document details the changes to the ASCCEG the ABS is proposing to make as an outcome of the 2025 minor review. These changes include:

- The identification of two new Cultural and Ethnic groups at the 4-digit level of the classification.
- Update of five labels for existing Cultural and Ethnic groups (4-digit level).
- One group (4-digit level) was retired and split into two new Cultural and Ethnic groups.
- The retirement of five Cultural and Ethnic groups (4-digit level) that have been in decline over the past 3 Censuses (2011-2021) to the most appropriate 'not elsewhere classified' (nec) category.

These changes have been developed through consultation with stakeholders, analysis of 2011, 2016, and 2021 Census data, research and the classification criteria. The objectives of these changes are to:

- Reflect the cultural and ethnic diversity of the Australian community.
- Ensure the classification uses contemporary and appropriate language.
- Ensure collection and production of high-quality data, improving data analysis and decision making.

The proposed new structure is provided in Appendix A.

The proposed changes to the ASCCEG are outlined below. No other changes are proposed at this time, though additional changes will be considered, following analysis of feedback collected through the second round of public consultation (broader aspects of the classification including the conceptual underpinning are not considered part of this review process).

Key proposed changes, by 2019 ASCCEG Broad group

The following is a summary of the key proposed changes (new groups, retired groups and groups where the label has been updated) to Cultural and Ethnic groups in each of the 2019 ASCCEG Broad groups.

Broad group 3, Southern and Eastern European

One label changed:

- 3212 Roma Gypsy updated to 3212 Romani

Broad group 4, North African and Middle Eastern

One Cultural and Ethnic group was split:

- 4908 Assyrian retired; this group was split into two new groups with 4915 Assyrian (exclusive of Syriac peoples) and 4917 Syriac

One Cultural and Ethnic group was added:

- 4916 Israeli separately identified from 4999 Other North African and Middle Eastern, nec

One Cultural and Ethnic group was retired:

- 4302 Darfur moved to 4399 Peoples of the Sudan, nec

Two labels were updated:

- 4902 Berber updated to 4902 Amazigh
- 4914 Yezidi updated to 4914 Yazidi

Broad group 5, South-East Asian

Two Cultural and Ethnic groups were retired:

- 5204 Madurese moved to 5299 Maritime South-East Asian, nec
- 5215 Temoq moved to 5299 Maritime South-East Asian, nec

Broad group 7, Southern and Central Asian

Two labels were updated:

- 7205 Pathan updated to 7205 Pashtun
- 7214 Uyghur updated to 7214 Uyghur

Broad group 9, Sub-Saharan African

One Cultural and Ethnic group was added:

- 9123 Edo separately identified from 9199 Central and West African, nec

Two Cultural and Ethnic groups were retired:

- 9225 Hutu moved to 9299 Southern and East African, nec
- 9234 Kunama moved to 9299 Southern and East African, nec

No changes have been made to the following Broad groups:

- Broad group 1, Oceanian
- Broad group 2, North-West European
- Broad group 6, North-East Asian
- Broad group 8, Peoples of the Americas

Appendix A

Proposed structure of 2025 ASCCEG.

